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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector

for the

YEAR 1946

C. J. Lewis, (Ashby) Ltd.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector

for the

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Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1946

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

(1) *Medical Officer of Health :*
A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

(2) *Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :*
JOHN P. COOK, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(3) *Additional Sanitary Inspector :*
H. BURROW, C.S.I.E.J.B., M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District Council.

Gentlemen.

I beg to present my Annual Report on the sanitary state of your district for the year ending 31st December, 1946, and I wish to express my thanks to Mr. J. P. Cook for his assistance, as many of the figures are taken from his annual summary.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area	28,073 acres.
Resident Population (R.G.'s estimate)	13,670.
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,734.
Rateable Value	£53,387.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£215.

The chief industries in the area are:— (1) Agriculture, (2) Coalmining, (3) Open-cast Coal Working, (4) Brickmaking, (5) Stoneware and Pipemaking and (6) Stone Quarrying.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

There is a Prisoner of War Camp at Staunton Harold.

Vital Statistics.

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births	Legitimate	250	118	132
	Illegitimate	6	2	4
		256	120	136

Birth Rate—18·7 per 1,000 population

England and Wales Birth Rate, 1946—19·1 per 1,000 population.

Still Births		Total	Male	Female
	Legitimate	5	2	3
	Illegitimate	1	0	1
		6	2	4

Still Birth Rate—0·43 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Still Birth Rate, 1946—0·53 per 1,000 population

DEATHS.

Total	Male	Female
152	73	79

Death Rate—11·1 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate, 1946—11·5 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death during 1946.

Diseases	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	0	2
Syphilitic Diseases	1	0	1
Influenza	0	2	2
Cancer (Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus M) (Uterus E)	1	1	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	5	9
Cancer of Breast	0	3	3
Cancer all other sites	5	7	12
Diabetes	1	0	1
Intercranial Vascular Lesions	13	13	26
Heart Disease	13	19	32
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	1	3
Bronchitis	3	3	6
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	0	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	0	2
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other digestive diseases	5	0	5
Nephritis	3	4	7
Other Maternal causes	0	1	1
Premature Births	1	3	4
Con. Malf. birth injury, Infant dis.	1	0	1
Road Traffic Accidents	1	0	1
Other violent causes	1	1	2
All other causes	9	10	19
	73	79	152

Chief Causes of Death in 1946 were :—
Heart Disease 32, Cancer 26, Intercranial Vascular Lesions 26, Nephritis 7, Bronchitis 6, Other digestive Diseases 5.

Maternal Mortality. Puerperal and Post Abortion Sepsis Nil.
Other Maternal Causes .... One.

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births (Live and Still) 3·8.
ditto (England and Wales) .... 1·43.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	9	4	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	9	4	5

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births 35·1.

England and Wales, 1946—43 per 1,000 Live Births.

Deaths occured during 1946 from the following diseases:—

Cancer (all ages)	26
Whooping Cough	0
Measles	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Laboratory Facilities.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations are provided for in the County Council Laboratory, 8, St. Martin's, Leicester. The following examinations were carried out during 1946:—

Milk Examinations (Bacteriological)	266
Sputa for Tubercule Bacilli	20
Sewage and Water Analysis	23
Swabs for Diphtheria	2
Milk for Phoshatase Test	7
Blood for Wasserman Test	2
Urine General & Bacteriological	6
Milk for Fat Content	1
Miscellaneous	3
Total	330

Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester.

Various examinations such as blood and faeces for Typhoid and Dysentry are carried out here.

Material for Immunisation and Vaccination can be obtained from here.

General Hospitals. Leicester Royal Infirmary, Burton Infirmary, Ashby Cottage Hospital, County P.A. Institution and Loughborough Hospital.

Infectious Diseases. Hospitals are provided by the Leicestershire County Council and are situated at Markfield (76 beds), Hinckley (23 beds), Blaby (17 beds) and Melton (32 beds).

Smallpox. Smallpox Hospitals are provided by the County Council at Syston (15 beds) and Snarestone (23 beds). Snarestone Smallpox Hospital is situated in your area.

Tuberculosis. The County Sanitorium at Markfield is well equipped for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis (214 beds).

Operations on cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are performed at Leicester City Isolation Hospital. A number of institutions including the following are available for the treatment of cases from the County :—

(1) City General Hospital, Leicester.
(2) Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital, Mansfield, Notts.
(3) Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Coleshill.

Maternity. Ashby Cottage Hospital, Fairhaven Nursing Home, Shellbrook, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Glencoe Nursing Home, Coalville are all conveniently situated for midwifery cases from your area. Burton Infirmary, Loughborough General Hospital and Leicester Royal Infirmary are available for cases requiring institutional treatment.

Children. Children are also admitted to Ashby Cottage Hospital and Leicester Royal Infirmary.
Orthopaedic cases are also admitted to Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Coleshill.

Other. Delicate and illnourished children 3 to 5 years are admitted to the Childrens' Convalescent Home at Woodhouse Eaves. Cases of Scabies are sent to Melton P.A. Institution.

Treatment Centres and Clinics. There are none actually held in your district. An Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist Schoolroom, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Antenatal Clinic and a Tuberculosis Dispensary are held regularly. A school and Dental Clinic is also conducted here. Veneral Diseases Clinics are held at Leicester Royal Infirmary, Burton Infirmary and Loughborough General Hospital.
Cases of Scabies are treated at Swadlincote Urban District Council Treatment Centre.

Ambulance Facilities. Cases of Infectious Diseases are removed by ambulances maintained for the purpose by the Leicestershire County Council.

Colliery accidents are transported by ambulances provided and maintained for this purpose by the Leicestershire Coal Owners Association and South Derbyshire and Leicestershire Coal Owners Association. Ambulances provided by the St. John Ambulance Association are available for Civilian cases and are stationed at Coalville and Church Gresley.

An interim Ambulance Service was established in 1945, by the County Council by arrangement with St. John Ambulance Brigade.

An Ambulance run by the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council is available for civilian cases in the parishes adjacent to the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District.

Nursing in the Home. General District Nurses are provided in most of the parishes or combined parishes by local voluntary effort under the supervision of Leicestershire County Nursing Association. Many of the District Nurses undertake midwifery.

Health Visiting. This is provided by the County Council and the work of health visitor, school nurse and tuberculosis visitor is combined in a single appointment. This work is very ably carried out in your area by three health visitors, Miss Seabrook, Miss Porter and Miss Anderson whose willing co-operation is always available to the district Medical Officer of Health. In a diphtheria immunisation campaign, the help of the health visitor is particularly valuable.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

(a) The piped water supply in the district has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Wells in agricultural parishes are fairly good.

(b) Piped supplies – results of samples taken for analysis :—

RAW WATER.				TREATED WATER GOING INTO SUPPLY			
Bacteriological		Chemical.		Bacteriological.		Chemical,	
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
2	1	2	–	–	–	–	–

(c) The waters in this area are not liable to Plumbo-solvent action.

(d) Water Supplies from Public Mains :—

DIRECT TO THE HOUSES.		BY MEANS OF STANDPIPES.	
No. of Dwelling Houses	Population.	No of Dwelling Houses.	Population.
3128	11,026	There are no public standpipes in the district.	

(e) No. of parishes with piped water supply :—

(1) from public mains 12
(2) from private reservoirs ... 2
(3) No. of parishes without a piped water supply 3
(4) No. of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water ... 72

(f) Water supplies from wells :—

RESULTS OF ANALYSES.

Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
Chemical.	Bacteriological.	Chemical.	Bacteriological.
–	–	2	14

No. of wells closed 27 No. of wells cleansed, etc. 2

(g) **Post War Proposals.**

Appleby Magna, Packington and Normanton-le-Heath (Estimated 1939 prices) £13,800.

Extensions.

Worthington, Coleorton, Swannington and Osgathorpe (Estimated 1939 prices) £2,880.

Plans and specifications have been sent to the Ministry of Health for approval.

Normanton-le-Heath water scheme approved by the Ministry of Health and tenders accepted.

Price £3,187 16s, 3d.

Contractor - W. Mulcaster & Co., Ltd.
Haslington,
Crewe.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No. of cesspools constructed during year ...	2
No. of cesspools abolished during year	0
Total number in district on December 31st, 1946	214

A short extension, 115 yards of 6 ins. G. & S. Stoneware was laid to Fone Hill, Swannington. Also extensions were laid to Heather, Swannington and Ravenstone Housing Sites. The small sewage works at Newbold were reconstructed and repaired. A byepass settling tank was also constructed.

Post War Proposals.

	£
Appleby Magna, Snarestone and Snarestone Road, Measham	28,500
Packington (Independent scheme)	8,900
Normanton-le-Heath	2,800
Coleorton, Worthington and part of Swannington including extensions ...	49,500
Osgathorpe (Sewage pumped to U D.C. works) ...	6,800
Heather	10,500
Swepstone	14,800

Ravenstone sewage works. Reconstruction and extension	3,000
Acresford (drainage to Netherseale)	2,650
Leicester Road and Bosworth Road, Measham. Relaying of old sewers ...	3,100

3. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in district on December 31st., 1946.
(a) Privies ..467 (b) Pail Closets ..1562 (c) W.C's....1707
No. of closets converted to water closets during year:—
(a) Privies ..33 (b) Pails...45
No. of Privies (Middens) converted to pail closets during year ..11

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House refuse is removed by direct labour. The Council have three Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicles of 7 cubic yards capacity, each fitted with a 350 gallon night soil tank. Dry refuse is taken to tips and the wet to agricultural land. Earth closets, ashpits and cesspools are emptied by the Council's workmen.

5. SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Total number of Complaints received ...	217
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	193
Nuisances detected (District Inspections) ...	274

Inspections made:—

	First Inspec.	Re-visits
Animal Keeping	5	8
Bakehouses	15	12
Dairies and Cowsheds	259	133
Drainage Works	118	197
Dwelling-houses (all purposes) ...	2103	923
Food Premises	72	18
Offensive Trades	—	—
Rats and Mice Destruction	26	37
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	193	149
Schools	17	9
Shops	28	11
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections ...	64	16
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	5	8
Verminous Premises and Scabies ...	1	2
Water Supplies	115	64
Workshops, etc.	57	12
Other Inspections	53	31
TOTAL	3131	1630

Notices.

Preliminary	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January ...	33	151
Issued during year	49	442
Complied with during the year ...	37	514 (including 1945 cases)
Statutory Action necessary ...	—	—
Outstanding 31st December ...	45	79

Statutory	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January ...	9	39
Issued during year	—	28
Complied with during year ...	8	44 (inclusive 1945 cases)
Outstanding 31st December ...	1	23

Summary Action.

No. of Summonses Issued	No. of Convictions obtained
—	—

6. SHOPS.

No action was taken under the Provision of Shops Act. 1934.

7. CAMPING SITES.

There are no camping sites in the district.

8. REGULATED BUILDINGS.

Regulated Buildings	No. on District	No. of Inspections	Action taken	General Conditions
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	—	—	—	—
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—

9. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Particulars of action taken :—

No. of Council Houses infested	Nil
No. of other dwelling houses found infested...	1
No. of houses disinfested	1

Method of disinfestation - house sprayed with Zaldecide.

10. SCHOOLS.

No schools were disinfected during year.

11. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

None in the district.

SECTION D.

12. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

COWKEEPERS.

No on Register	No. of Inspections	No of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
212	259	16	35	44	7

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers.)

No on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
2	5	—	—	—	—

Total Contraventions.

	Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
Cleansing	6	17	21	2
Structural Alterations	4	13	13	4
Utensils	5	—	5	—
Other	1	5	5	1

MILK SAMPLING.

Class.	Total No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination.	Satisfactory.	No. Unsatisfactory.
Designated "Tuberculin Tested"	–	–	–
"Accredited"	–	–	–
"Pasteurised"	–	–	–
Ordinary	24	23	1
Sterilised	–	–	–
Heat-treated	–	–	–

In the event of unsatisfactory samples, the producer is immediately notified and instructions are given regarding steps to be taken to ensure the production of clean milk. Methods are carefully checked and another sample taken at a later date.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1936 to 1941.

No. of Licences issued in respect of								
"Tuberculin Tested."			"Accredited."			"Pasteurised."		
Bottling.	Distribution.		Bottling	Distribution.		Bottling.	Distribution.	
	Dealers	Supplementary		Dealers.	Supplementary.		Dealers.	Supplementary.
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1

There are 62 Accredited Milk Producers and 4 Tuberculin Tested Producers in the district who have received licences from the Leicestershire County Council.

LICENSED PASTEURISING PLANTS.

Make & Type (Holder or H.T.S.T.)	Capacity (Galls. per hour)	Temperature Control.
—	—	Hand — Automatic —

No. of plants for heating milk not licensed as Pasteurising Plants : —Nil.

No. of Authorities issued by Ministry of Food under Regulation 55G :—

(1) "Heat-treatment" Nil. (2) "Sterilisation" Nil.

Meat and Other Food.

No. of Regional Slaughter Houses in Area ...	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered in Area	Nil
No. of animals examined in Area	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered elsewhere ...	Unknown
No. of animals examined elsewhere	Nil
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter ...	Nil
No. of Knacker Yards in Area	1
No. of visits to Knacker Yards	9

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

No carcase or part was condemned.

Meat Stalls.

Number of Inspections ... ... Nil.

Meat Shops, Meat Stalls, etc.

Number of Inspections 61

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale.

Number of Inspections 11

Food inspected and condemned is as follows :—

224 lbs. Cooking Oats.
67¾ lbs. Dates.
45 lbs. Beef.
9 lbs. Bacon.
1152 lbs. Tinned Raspberries.
6 lbs. Irish Stew.
72 tins Fish Roll.
112 lbs. Peas.
18 lbs. Suet.
19 lbs. Shoulder Piece.
5 Stones Fish.

48 tins of Corned Beef were inspected following complaint. One tin was taken for analysis, but report showed food wholesome.

SECTION E.

13. HOUSING

A. NEW HOUSES.

(*a*) Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year 941

(*b*) Programme of new houses to be erected by Local Authority :—

First year ...	200	Second year ...	150
Third year	150	Fourth year ...	100
Fifth year ...	100		

Difficulty in securing adequate labour force and supplies of materials have prevented the completion of any houses by Local Authority.

(*c*)

Houses erected during year, by:	TYPE.			Av. cost per house.	Av. Rent Inc. or Exculsive of Rates.
	Prefabricated		Permanent		
	Temporary	Permanent			
1. Local Authority.	—	—	—	—	—
2. Private Enterprise.	—	—	2	£1,187 10s.	Owner occupiers.
Houses in course of erection at end of year by: 1. Local Authority.		16	16	£1375 / £1417	Inclusive of roads, sewers, watermains etc.
2. Private Enterprise.			9	£1043 10s.	

B. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :-

(1) (*a*) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 2103

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 3026

(2) (*a*) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 53

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 110

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 210

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (Exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 554

C. Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notices :-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 25

D. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :-

(*a*) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : —	
	(*a*) By Owners	Nil.
	(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(*b*) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	28
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(*a*) By Owners (inclusive of 1945 cases) ...	44
	(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(*c*) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	4
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2

(*d*) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil.
(2)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil.

E. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :-

(*a*) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ...	93
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	135
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	672
(*b*)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	93
(*c*) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil.
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	Nil.

F. Progress of Rural Housing Survey.

Number of houses inspected under Rural Housing Survey is 3,366. These were placed in the following categories :—

Category 1	1,253
Category 2	1,140
Category 3	526
Category 4	—
Category 5	447

14 In addition to the previous figures 759 inspections and revisits were made to Council Houses to superintend and check up repairs.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1946.

Diseases.	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	9	4	0
Whooping Cough	62	0	0
Measles	18	0	0
Acute Pneumonia	23	0	4
Erysipelas	5	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	3	0
Dysentry	2	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	1	0
Diphtheria	1	1	0
Total	123	9	4

Analysis under age groups according to Registrar General's Return 118d (Final numbers after correction)

Age Groups	*Scarlet Fever.*	*Whooping Cough.*	*Measles.*
0–1	0	10	4
1–3	0	15	4
3–5	1	11	2
5–10	3	23	6
10–15	1	2	1
15–25	2	1	0
25 and over	2	0	1
Totals	9	62	18

Age Group	Pneumonia	Dysentry	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	C. Spinal Fever
0–5	8	1	1	1	0	1
5–15	6	0	0	0	0	0
15–45	1	1	0	0	1	0
45–65	6	0	0	4	0	0
65 and over	2	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	23	2	1	5	1	1

Table showing incidence of Notifiable Diseases in each parish during 1946.

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Dysentry
Chilcote	–	–	–	–	1	–
Measham	–	6	2	3	9	–
Newbold	–	9	–	–	1	–
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	–	8	3	–	1	–
Appleby Magna	–	9	6	–	3	–
Swannington	1	4	–	–	3	1
Ravenstone	2	2	1	–	2	–
Coleorton	3	2	1	1	2	–
Peggs Green	–	–	1	–	–	–
Osgathorpe	–	4	1	–	–	-
Worthington	–	4	–	–	–	–
Heather	1	9	–	–	–	-
Snarestone	–	–	1	-	-	–
Newton Burgoland	–	1	–	1	2	–
Lount	2	–	–	–	–	–
Griffydam	–	4	1	–	–	1
Normanton-le-Heath	–	–	1	–	–	–

	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Ophthlmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pryexia
Griffydam	1	–	–
Heather	–	1	–
Worthington	–	–	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases of Tuberculosis on Register at Dec. 31st., 1946.

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
26	15	41	18	18	36

Total – 77

New Cases notified in 1946.

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
3	0	5	3	11

Cases removed from Register.

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
3	5	3	4	15

IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria.

Total number immunised to December 31st, 1946.

Age at 31.12.46 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5-9 1937-1941	10-14 1932-1936	Total under 15
Number immunised	–	140	106	135	130	599	222	1332
Estimated mid-year Population 1946			1150			1920		3070

TOTAL NUMBER IMMUNISED DURING 1946.

Under 5 years	295
5–15 years	126
Total	421

Number who have had a third injection – 14.

Whooping Cough. There were 62 cases notified during the year. No deaths.

Acute Pneumonia. 23 cases were notified with 4 deaths.

Scarlet Fever. There were nine cases of Scarlet Fever.

Dysentry. Two cases of mild Dysentry were notified. There have probably been many mild cases which have not received medical attention.

Erysipelas. There were five case notified and no deaths.

Measles. There were 18 cases notified.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART II.

Annual Report of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District Council of Ashby-de la-Zouch.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present this my Annual Report to the Council for the year ending 31st December, 1946, dealing with my work as Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for the seventeen parishes under my supervision, viz.:

Appleby Magna, Bardon, Chilcote, Coleorton, Heather, Measham, Normanton-le-Heath, Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe, Osgathorpe, Packington, Ravenstone, Snarestone, Staunton Harold, Swannington, Swepstone, Stretton-en-le-Field and Worthington;

and the work as Manager of the Sewage Disposal Works and Building Surveyor.

The time has been fully occupied in making inspections in connection with complaints received and nuisances detected, or after notification of Infectious Diseases; Inspections made under Housing Acts; Superintending works necessary to abate nuisances and render houses reasonably fit for human habitation; Inspections of Slaughter Houses and meat and other foods; water supplies; scavenging; cowsheds; and dairies; new buildings, etc.

Office work has demanded a considerable amount of time, with regard to keeping the necessary books and records of work and in correspondence.

Four hundred and ninety one Informal Notices were served during the year and Twenty-eight Statutory.

COMPLAINTS.

Under their heading I have classified the improvements and work carried out in connection with same:

Complaints received	217
Premises inspected	217
Revisits to work in hand	315
Nuisances abated	144
Work still in hand	7
Work not started	42
Groundless complaints	24
Nuisances detected	274
Premises inspected	274
Revisits to work in hand	345
Nuisances abated	257
Work still in hand	15
Work not started	2
Other inspections	18
Informal notices served	271
Statutory notices	13

In connection with the above table, the following work has been carried out:—

Pan closets converted to W.C's.	3
Privies converted to Pans	14
Privies converted to W.C's.	5
W.C's. repaired	61
Privy closets cleansed	12
New Sanitary Pans provided	51
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated ...	38
Dustbins provided	79
Chokage to drains cleared	21
Cesspools cleansed or repaired	29
Ashpits cleaned	15
Pool, ditch or gutter nuisance abated ...	7
Offensive accumulations removed	141
Houses cleansed and limewashed or distempered	6
Overcrowding abated	0
Animal nuisance abated	5
Sewer chokages removed	2
Roofs repaired	41
Fireplace repaired	29
Pump repaired	5
Ashpits repaired	3
Spouts and Downpipes repaired	19
Other sanitary matters	23

During the year 152 nuisances were abated as a result of notices served prior to 1946. These and other outstanding notices involved a total of 517 revisits during the year under review.

DISINFESTATION.

During the year two premises were disinfested.

RAT AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT 1919.

Work under this heading was carried out as and where necessary. The refuse tips and sewage disposal works have had quarterly disinfestation by the Leicestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee under contract and I am pleased to report that this has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

Mr. T. Hubbard the Council's Official Rodent Operator has carried out disinfestation on a few occasions under my instructions but I am pleased to report that your district has had no major infestation.

Primary inspections ...	26
Revisits	37
Infestation discovered ...	15
Nuisance abated ...	15
Informal notices served ...	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Houses inspected	12
Rooms disinfected ..	11
Lots of bedding, clothing disinfected	8

Gratuitous supplies of disinfecting fluid were distributed so as to ensure thorough disinfection of washable materials, floors, etc.

During the year investigation and advice was given to one case of tuberculosis and one case of dysentery. The tracing, investigation and advising of 4 contacts of smallpox ex four of His Majesty's Troopships.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of wells closed	27
Number of houses inspected ...	115
Samples taken for analysis	18
Samples condemned	15
Water laid on from Public Main ...	72
Wells cleansed and protected ...	2
Inspections to work whilst in hand ...	64
Informal notices served	43
Statutory notices served	2
Work not started	13
Alternative supply provided (temporary)	6

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of licensed Slaughter Houses in district ...	3
Number of inspections made	27
Number of verbal notices given to limewash ...	0

The Knacker Yard at Breedon Brand in the parish of Worthington has been kept in good order. Nine inspections were made during the year.

MEAT INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections made during the year ... 37

The meat supplied in your district is distributed from the Regional Slaughterhouse at Coalville.

MEAT SHOPS.

Number of inspections made	61
Number of contraventions found and remedied ...	2
Informal notices served	2

CONDEMNED FOODS.

During the year the following goods were inspected and condemned as unfit for human consumption:

Fish	5 stones
Beef	45 lbs.
Bacon	9 ,,
Tinned Raspberries ...	1,152 ,,
Pork – Shoulder piece ...	19 ,,
Breakfast cooking oats ...	224 ,,
Dried peas	112 ,,
Dates	67¾ ,,
Fish Roll	72 tins
Suet ...	18 lbs.
Irish Stews (in tins) ...	6 ,,

The inspection of a case of 48 tins of corned beef at the request of the Canteen Manager of Newbold Colliery. A sample tin was submitted for analysis and the analyst reported that the food was suitable for human consumption. The Canteen Manager was notified accordingly.

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSION.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out under this heading during the year, both by voluntary action and under notices served by this Council. In the case of voluntary conversions I have been called in for advice before the work was put in hand and have supervised the work whilst in progress. In some case delays have occurred due to shortage of labour and material, but generally good progress has been made.

Details of sanitary improvements are as follows:

Premises inspected (Voluntary Conversions) ...	58
Premises inspected (District Inspections) ...	25
New drainage systems laid to sewer ...	22
Old drains repaired and extended ...	2
New water closets constructed to replace privies	33
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets	45
Bathrooms provided	4
Sinks provided	2
Additional W.C. accommodation provided ...	5
Revisits of inspection	78
Informal notices served by way of instruction	43
Informal notices to convert (after District Inspection)	25
Statutory notices to convert	8
New drains laid to cesspools	2
New cesspools constructed	2
Work not started	31
Work in hand	3

NEW BUILDINGS.

New houses completed by Private Enterprise	2
Plans of Council Houses passed and contracts let by the Local Authority during the year	66
Large houses converted to separate dwellings providing 4 separate dwellings ...	2
Additions and improvements to existing buildings	25
Plans passed (Dwelling, shops, etc.) ...	53
Houses drained to a sewer	3
Houses drained to a cesspool	3
Water supply from Public Main	6
Houses with Water Closets	6
Inspections made during construction ...	67

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Extension of 6″ sewer carried out (Foan Hill)	1
Sewers flushed and cleansed	16
Repairs or improvements to sewage works ...	5
Chokages to sewers cleared	7
Inspections whilst work in hand ...	46
Inspections of sewage works	118

All sewage works have been kept in good working order throughout the year and effluents have been very satisfactory.

Partial reconstruction of the sewage works at Newbold has been required and owing to the difficulty of securing spare parts work has not yet been completed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Work under this heading has generally been carried out very satisfactorily in the Measham, Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Snarestone, and the Appleby, Heather, Packington, Normanton-le-Heath, Ravenstone and Swepstone areas. I would like to add that considerable improvement was apparent during the second half of the year in the latter area. The Coleorton, Osgathorpe, Lount, Swannington and Worthington area has presented difficulties in the speeding up of the collection of bins. This was primarily due to the very scattered nature of the area and the large number of isolated houses set back from the main road and lanes. In all areas the collection of night soil has been carried out promptly and at regular periods. The work of collecting the domestic refuse has been retarded by frequent mechanical breakdowns of the lorries and sickness of workmen.

I respectfully suggest that a new lorry be purchased and the oldest lorry (CAY 561) be kept as a reserve and for assisting all districts, to be manned by two men, who would concentrate on the emptying of ashpits and cesspools. We already have a spare driver and the only additional heavy expenditure involved would be the provision of a garage and one additional loader.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

In the Milk and Dairies Order 1926, the greatest stress is laid on the methods necessary in the production and distribution of milk and cleanliness might be said to be the outstanding feature.

Structural improvements to sheds are still being carried out so as to comply with the Order, and with the Orders relating to Designated Milks, but owing to the shortage of materials and labour, due to the priority given to dwelling houses, progress has been slow.

I must put on record the very satisfactory efforts by the farmers and dairymen of your district to produce clean and wholesome milk.

At the end of the year there were Sixty-two producers of Accredited milk and four of Tuberculin Tested milk in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District. In connection with the scheduling of the reconstruction work, which must be carried out before a Licence is granted by the Leicestershire County Council, I wish to point out that the County Officials and myself have always worked in harmony and they have always respected my authority and decision with regard to problems of structural alterations.

Number of registered milk producers in the district ...	212
,, ,, retailers in the district	89
,, ,, Milking cows in the district (estimated) ...	4,153
,, ,, inspections made to farm premises ...	259
,, ,, cowsheds structurally improved	9
,, ,, new cowsheds provided	–
,, ,, cowsheds found dirty and unlimewashed ...	16
,, ,, dairies and coolerhouses inspected ...	216
,, ,, dairies and coolerhouses found defective .	4
,, ,, dairies and coolerhouses structurally improved	2
,, ,, dairies and coolerhouses in need of cleaning and limewashing	1
,, ,, contraventions of M. & D. Order 1926 detected other than items specified above, viz :— accumulations of manure, dirty utensils, unclean udders, etc.	5
,, ,, insanitary conditions remedied	22
,, ,, revisits while work in hand	133
,, ,, notices served	35

During the year I collected 24 samples of milk for analysis and these resulted in the following reports from Dr. Fairer, the County Medical Officer.

Grade I	23
Grade II	1
Grade III	–
Grade IV	–
Tuberculin Tested . .	–

TENTS, VANS and SHEDS.

Inspection of caravans and caravan sites ...	5
Revisits	8
Plans submitted in respect of sites ...	1
Plans approved	1
Caravans removed after notice ...	3

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspection of Factories	25	72
Inspection of Bakehouses	15	
Inspection of Garage premises ...	32	
Notices received from Factory Inspector	4	
Notices received from Factory Inspector and complied with	1	
Work in hand in respect of above notices	3	
Temporary sanitary conveniences approved	1	
Cleansing of sanitary conveniences ...	2	
Revisits	12	
Informal notices served	19	

HOUSING.

Routine work under the Housing Acts has been carried out and many cottages which were in a state of disrepair have been repaired and made sanitary. Owing to the shortage of labour and materials considerable delays have occurred in the completion of the work.

Number of houses inspected (new cases)	53
,, ,, ,, which were defective	49
,, ,, ,, where defects have been remedied ..	10
,, ,, ,, where work is still in hand ...	14
Work not started	25
Total number of revisits while work in hand ...	57
Informal notices served	49
Statutory notices served	5

Details of work done in this connection, inclusive of 1945 cases completed during the year, are as follows :—

Roofs repaired	6
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	6
Floors repaired	1
Doors repaired	3
Windows repaired or new ones fixed ...	5
Eaves-spouts and downpipes repaired ...	1
Drains laid, relaid or repaired	1
Plastering to rooms repaired	6
Washhouses repaired or drained	2
Larders provided, repaired and ventilated ...	1
New sinks provided	1
Other matters not specified above ...	9

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

I am pleased to report that this survey carried out under the requirements of Ministry of Health Circular 64/44, following the report on rural housing submitted by a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Arthur Hobhouse was completed in December.

During this year 1,366 houses of a rateable value of £16 and under were inspected in detail, including details of overcrowding. This added to the 2,000 completed in 1945 gives the Grand Total of 3,366. These have been placed in the categories as set out below.

Parish.	Categories.				Total Inspected.	Legal Over-crowding.	Total houses in parish.
	1	2	3	5			
Appleby Magna	30	66	53	43	192	10	214
Bardon	6	5	–	1	12	Nil	13
Chilcote	–	18	3	–	21	Nil	30
Coleorton	97	103	44	44	288	12	305
Donisthorpe	221	89	33	28	371	3	413
Heather	50	30	20	34	134	Nil	157
Measham	290	212	76	61	639	22	694
Normanton-le-Heath	1	18	4	1	24	1	32
Oakthorpe	102	77	31	33	243	15	255
Osgathorpe	24	38	19	12	93	4	107
Packington	22	38	34	8	102	3	119
Ravenstone	127	105	56	23	311	2	337
Snarestone	11	42	5	19	77	1	84
Staunton Harold	4	19	6	8	37	Nil	44
Stretton-en-le-Field	2	8	–	–	10	Nil	15
Swannington	141	113	72	36	362	10	409
Swepstone	17	66	15	38	136	5	156
Worthington	108	93	55	58	314	11	333
Total	1253	1140	526	447	3,366	99	3,717

The shortages of labour and building materials have caused a restriction on the completion of the houses in the course of erection within the District. Therefore it is impracticable to implement a housing programme within the framework of this report, but I would point out that the information acquired provides a reliable index of housing conditions as they exist at the moment.

COUNCIL HOUSES.

The 328 houses owned by the Council in the parishes of Appleby Magna (16), Coleorton (44). Heather (12), Measham (92), Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe (65), Osgathorpe (10), Ravenstone (15), Swannington (36), Worthington (32) and six Agricultural Workers Cottages, which are under my supervision have received my constant care and attention.

All repairs have been carried out as speedily as possible but there have been delays in some instances, due to shortage of labour and materials.

The external painting of the Council Houses at Donisthorpe was carried out during the year. Footpaths were laid to 20 Council Houses at Newbold.

Work on new sites was commenced during the year, installation of new roads and drains at Heather and Ravenstone are completed. Work on Swannington site still in hand. The work involved a total of 43 visits, supervising the laying of the foul and surface water drains.

The Hollies was requisitioned and converted into 2 dwellings. The work being completed in accordance with detailed specifications prepared by myself and approved by the Ministry of Health. The work involved comprised sanitation, redecoration, additional fireplaces, repairs to roof, windows, doors, floors, one extra bathroom and one coalhouse was also constructed.

In conclusion I wish to point out to the Council the invaluable work carried out by Mr. H. Burrow in connection with the Housing Survey and general inspections and by Miss J. E. Lilley in the typing, clerical and recording work so essential in my department.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN P. COOK,
C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

ALTH
AUG 1947